

**STATE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
December 6, 2002**

MEMBERS: Jon Jui, William Ferguson, Denise Giard, Terry Griffith, Pat Hart, Pete Kingsley, Helen Miller, Richard Straw, T.R. Hilton, Suzann Schmele, Linda Quackenbush

Teleconference: William Porter, Jim Thomas

Absent: Ken Parsons, Erin Burnham, Charles McCart, Eric Brunswick, James Giesen

Staff: Jonathan Chin, Catherine Schmitz, Jerry Andrews, Elizabeth Morgan, Raelene Jarvis

Guests: David Cook, Craig Worden, Ameen Ramzy, Greg Hoskins, Cameron Helikson, Ritu Sahni

1. Call to Order

- A) Jon Jui called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. All were reminded of the no smoking policy.
- B) Motion by Linda Quackenbush and Pat Hart to accept September 12, 2002 minutes
The committee accepted minutes.

2. Subcommittee & Liaison Section - Reports/Committee Discussion

A) Board of Medical Examiners EMT Advisory Board Liaison

Suzann Schmele reported the Board of Medical Examiner (BME) would meet the morning of December 13, 2002. Proposed changes to the EMT-Intermediate scope of practice will be discussed. Recommendations will be forwarded to the full Board for approval. Mr. Tardiff was appointed for another term.

B) Subcommittee on EMT Certification and Discipline

Suzann Schmele reported the committee met in executive session on December 6, 2002. Five (5) individuals were scheduled who were approaching the end of Probationary Contract. One (1) was released from probation after successful completion of the requirements of their

agreement. One (1) was extended for an additional year for monitoring. Two (2) were instructed to complete the quarterly reporting through the end of the contract. The committee discussed file (s) of two (2) individuals, not required to appear. The committee met in general session on December 6, 2002. There was discussion regarding the make-up of this committee. The committee will refer to the bylaws.

C) **EMT Education** – see below

D) **EMS for Children**

Craig Warden reported the committee met December 6, 2002. The committee has vacant positions of a SEMSC committee member, Family Advocate, Pediatric Care Practitioner, Training Coordinator, and Medical Director preferably from the NON-Metro area. The DHS-EMS EMSC position was posted as 0.7 FTE. The Partnership Grant has been funded for three (3) years at \$100 k per year. A brochure for the EMSC Conference October 18 & 19, 2002 will be available shortly. PEPP courses are scheduled in Bend, Ontario, and Marion County for 2003. **Jon Jui requests a needs assessment of this committee at the March meeting.**

E) **Oregon State Ambulance Association Liaison**

No Report

F) **Oregon ACEP Liaison**

No Report

3. **NEW BUSINESS**

A) **Information**

1. **Reorganization**

Jonathan Chin reported DHS-EMS internal reorganization is complete. Remaining positions to be filled in the rebuilding stage include; Prehospital Standards Representative, Prehospital Systems Manager, and EMS-Children Representative. Mr. Chin requested two (2) committee members to assist with interviews. Pat Hart and Dr. Ferguson volunteered. Administrative Assistant Karen E. Baker joined the staff November 26, 2002. Ms. Baker will replace Catherine J. Schmitz as support for this committee. The committee thanked Ms. Schmitz for her assistance in the interim.

2. New Players in Oregon EMS

Jonathan Chin announced the arrival of some new faces with new roles in EMS. Ameen Ramzy is a trauma surgeon at Emanuel Hospital. Dr. Ramzy was formerly State EMS Director in Maryland. He will be a guest member of the EMT Certification and Discipline subcommittee. Ritu Sahni, MD is the Medical Director for Life Flight, and NAEMSP Executive Board member. Dr Sahni has experience as faculty member at East Carolina University. Bruce Beauchamp, is an Anesthesiologist who has contacted the Section expressing interest in becoming involved with Oregon EMS. Prior to becoming a physician, he worked as EMT-P for seventeen (17) years in Oregon. Wes Harwood, EMT-P has joined Oregon Department of Education. Mr. Harwood will be responsible for community college accreditation of EMT course work. Greg Hoskins, MD is one (1) of three (3) individuals participating in the Fellowship Program at OHSU.

3. Director's Visitations

Jonathan Chin stated he would be heading east this month on his first meet and greet to Eastern Oregon. He will be visiting with Blue Mountain Hospital Ambulance, Hermiston Fire Department, Northeast AHEC, and Harney County EMS. Information gathered will be brought to next committee meeting.

4. EMT-Intermediate Scope/Survey

After discussion at the September meeting, a survey of individual EMT-Intermediates and agencies was developed. Questions included what skills are used; when they are used; demographics; and impact of additional educational components. A committee will be assembled to crunch the numbers and review. The close date for return is today.

5. NAEMSD Conference

Jonathan Chin reported he attended the NAEMSD annual conference in Maine. He was encouraged by the networking possibilities of the group. Mr. Chin raised the question of Oregon's A.A.S. requirement and what, if any other States have similar requirements. Oregon is currently one (1) of three (3) States currently with the requirement. There were two (2) or three (3) other s considering a change, and some who said NO. Mr. Chin has since submitted a survey for posting on the organizations list serve to poll members.

6. State Interoperability Executive Council

Jonathan Chin reported he has been appointed to this council. The council is appointed by the Governor's Security Counsel and includes; EMS, Fire; and Law Enforcement. The goal is

creation of a trunking system allowing for a statewide communication system.

7. Office of Rural Health/AED Grants

A collaborative project for AED distribution was reported to the committee. A national grant project through the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy via Oregon Office of Rural Health offers \$182 k for the purchase and distribution of AED's. Mr. Evan Mayfield, from the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy anticipates future rounds of funding as well. Applications received by the EMS section have been reviewed. Requests for information (RFI) for pricing have been sent.

8. Paramedic Recertification Exam

Jonathan Chin reported the validation exam was held in six (6) locations around the state. The recertification consists of four (4) parts; recertification application, recertification exam, skills verification, and continuing education units. Preliminary reports will look at information and proceed as needed for test bank use. The pass rate is 75%. After two unsuccessful attempts, a refresher course is required. Four (4) to six (6) versions of the exam are targeted for February 2003 distribution. The section thanks Eric Schult of TVF&R for his wonderful support.

B) Discussion

1. SEMESC Purpose and Utilization

Jonathan Chin gave a PowerPoint overview of Oregon's EMS status. Mr. Chin stated Oregon has a good EMS system, but it has the potential to be an excellent system. His challenge and desire is together we move Oregon EMS towards that end. There was discussion amongst committee and guests including; willingness to work together; find/create bylaws for this committee and subcommittee (s), identify what currently works and what doesn't, need for follow-up on projects once started, ORS and OAR language to meet reality, input from ALL committee members, and role (s) of subcommittee (s).

2. Oregon EMS – The Big Picture

There was discussion regarding setting future priorities and direction for EMS in Oregon. The committee decided to revisit the 1992 NHTSA assessment, identify points which are still valid and move forward from there. The Section will develop a survey tool to review and compare the 1992 assessment with Oregon EMS today to serve as starting point.

3. A.A.S. Degree Program

Jonathan Chin reported he is conducting a survey with the National Association of EMS Directors (NAEMSD) regarding Oregon's A.A.S. Degree requirement. Mr. Chin has fielded concerns recently from some Professional Associations in Oregon. After Discussion, the committee reaffirmed their commitment to this requirement.

4. SB-911 Mini Grants – Direction of Distribution

It was reported the section has coordinated mini grants of \$750.00 each to applicants. Of \$150k available, requests have totaled approximately \$22k. Jonathan Chin stated the new round would allow \$1k grants to selected applicants. Mr. Chin requested suggested themes submitted to himself ASAP. The previous theme was pediatrics.

5. Air Medical Work Group

Jonathan Chin request support of a collaborative effort with STAB and SEMSC to address statewide air medical issues. Goals of the group include; assess what works and what does not, define operations including response time, mode of transport and make up of crew. Mr. Chin asked for volunteers from the group. Bill Porter, Jon Jui, and Ken Parsons were selected. Mr. Chin will include Paul LeSage, and himself.

6. ORS/OAR Revisions – See #1 this section

C) Weapons of Mass Destruction

Jon Jui request input from all on what is need to establish consistent level of care throughout the State including; operations guide, protocols, and standards used to determine protocols.

Jonathan Chin requested opportunity for providers give input. Helen Miller and Jonathan Chin both hold seats on the Health Care Preparedness Advisory Committee.

D) Prehospital Database Update

Will Worrall gave and update via PowerPoint outlining progress with the Prehospital Database.

It is current collecting data. There is still work to be done in standardization of data points, electronic transfer of data and policy issues before implementing the program Statewide.

E) Subcommittee Reports

➤ *EMS Database* – See Above

➤ *EMT Certification* – See Above

➤ *Health Services* – Cancelled

➤ *Disaster Planning*

There was much discussion as stated above regarding concern of lack of disaster plan on a statewide basis, which includes EMS as a known player. Jon Jui and Jonathan Chin will draft a letter to Grant Higginson regarding the status of Disaster Preparedness planning at the request of SEMSC.

5) STAFF REPORTS

Program Quarterly Reports were provided to committee members. Additional copies were available for guests.

6. PUBLIC FORUM & COMMENT

None

7. ADJOURN

Motion; Richard Straw

Second; Denise Giard

Respectfully submitted by:

Catherine J Schmitz
Prehospital Standards Assistant
Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems